

NEBRASKA

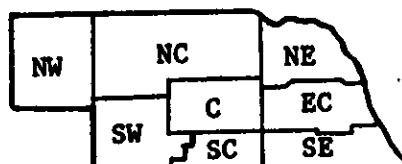
WEATHER & CROPS

Run 1400
NEBRASKA *4/24/89*
 **AGRICULTURAL
 STATISTICS
 SERVICE**

For Week Ending April 23, 1989

Issue: 07-89	Phone: (402) 437-5541	P.O. Box 81069
Released: 4/24/89 - 3:00 p.m.	Location: 273 Federal Bldg.	Lincoln, NE 68501

National Agricultural Statistics Service
 U.S. Department of Agriculture
 and U.S. Department of Commerce
 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admn.
 National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
 Division of Agr'l. Statistics
 Cooperative Extension Service
 Institute of Agriculture
 and Natural Resources--UNL

WEATHER

The week began on the cool side with scattered showers but ended very hot and dry. Average temperatures ranged from eight to twelve degrees above normal. Rainfall amounts ranged from traces up to a quarter of an inch.

GENERAL

Warm, dry conditions prevailed again last week across the State, with only scattered limited rainfall occurring in the northeast, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Range and pasture land was beginning to green up with the warmer weather, but growth has been slow because of the dry conditions. Corn planting was picking up, although many farmers were waiting for rain before starting to plant. In the Panhandle, sugar beet planting was winding down and some farmers were tilling summer fallow. Other farm activities consisted of: finishing small grain seeding, applying fertilizer and herbicides, working calves, and cleaning winter feed and calving lots. Days suitable for fieldwork averaged 6.9.

Soil moisture conditions continued to decline last week. Topsoil moisture condition rated 89% short and 11% adequate. Subsoil moisture condition rated 75% short and 25% adequate. Last year, topsoil moisture rated 71% short and 29% adequate. Subsoil moisture rated 32% short and 68% adequate.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition declined further last week to 3% very poor, 29% poor, 63% fair, and 5% good. Populations of brown wheat mite and Russian wheat aphids were reported in the Panhandle, as well as a significant amount of streak mosaic. Crown and root rot damage was reported in the Panhandle and the east, along with chinch bugs in the southeast. The crop was showing stress from the dry conditions statewide. Five percent of the crop was in the joint stage.

Corn planting progressed to 6% complete compared with 8% in 1988 and 6% average. Many growers were waiting for moisture to begin planting.

Oat seeding was 92% complete compared with 88% last year and 75% average. Most newly emerged seedlings were needing rain to develop properly.

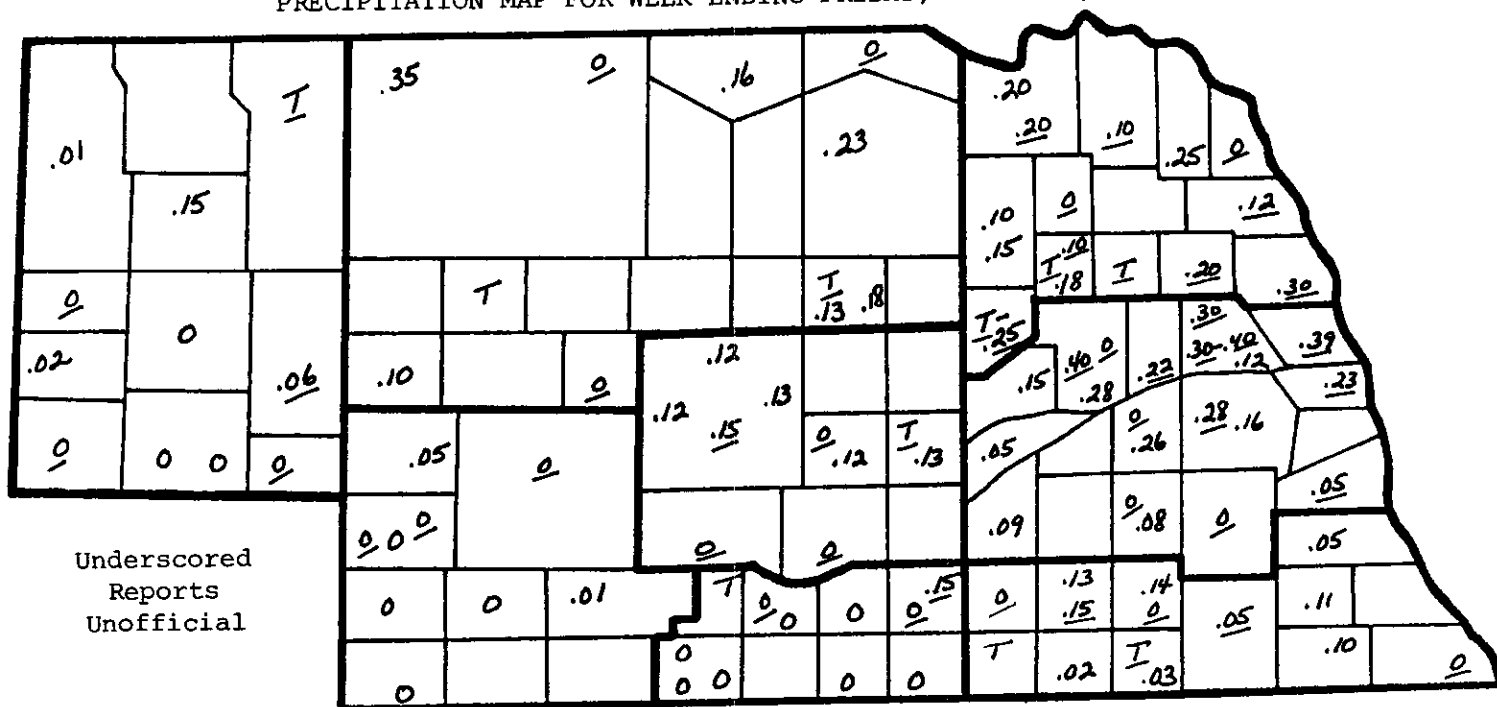
LIVESTOCK

Range and pasture feed supplies rated 61% short and 39% adequate. Dry conditions have slowed spring growth of grasses. Some cattle have been turned out on summer pasture, but many of these were being fed hay to supplement these feeding needs. Very dry conditions in some southern counties have seriously restricted grass and pasture development. Northern pastures have also been slow developing but generally have received more winter moisture and should soon provide grazing.

Precipitation, April 1 - April 21, 1989

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week03	.16	.18	.12	.15	.01	.02	.07
Total since April 132	.29	.36	.15	.21	.18	.06	.10
Normal since April 1	1.16	1.47	1.68	1.67	1.89	1.23	1.47	1.89

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 1989



TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA FOR WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, APRIL 23, 1989

Station	Temperature				Precipitation
	Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches ^{1/}
	Max	Min			
NW Chadron	93	28	60	--	.12
Scottsbluff	92	30	60	+12	T
Sidney	90	32	60	--	0
NC Ord	93	25	61	--	0
Valentine	96	26	60	+12	.20
NE Norfolk	95	32	63	+12	.18
Sioux City	90	30	60	+8	.12
CEN Grand Island	94	30	63	+11	.05
EC Lincoln	94	25	61	+8	.05
Omaha	96	32	61	+8	.22
SW Imperial	93	36	62	--	T
North Platte	93	32	61	+11	T

^{1/} Precipitation totals not included in map above.

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS (ISSN 0745-0230) is published weekly April-November and monthly December-March by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), 100 Centennial Mall North, Room 273 Federal Building, Lincoln, NE 68508. Subscription is free to survey respondents upon request to NASS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501, or by calling (402) 437-5541 and available for \$15.00 per year to non-reporters. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501.

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